

V. 29 Jun 87

LIBYA

D 1

Air Force 'Obligated To Combat' U.S. Interference
LD271303 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jun 87

[Text] Washington, 27 Jun (JANA) — The U.S. Department of Defense stated last week that Libyan jet fighters twice flew near a U.S. Navy cruiser in the Mediterranean and that orders were given to the cruiser's crew to confront a possible attack.

The JANA editor for military affairs has responded to this by noting that while Libyan aircraft were carrying out routine reconnaissance flights in the Mediterranean, a U.S. vessel began interfering with one of these planes. Consequently, the interfering party was approached to learn its identity and to warn it against the folly and consequences of this action.

The editor stressed that interfering with Libyan reconnaissance aircraft is a hostile and provocative U.S. act which Libya will not accept. He stated that if Libyan aircraft are subjected to interference or interception during their routine and legitimate missions, then the Libyan Arab Air Force under international law will be obliged to combat the U.S. Naval units.

The editor reaffirmed the Great Jamahiriya's call for removing foreign fleets from the Mediterranean. These fleets are a source of aggression against the region's nations and a constant threat to their security.

He called on the littoral states to earnestly work to avert this threat inherent in foreign naval fleets.

Al-Qadhdhafi Interview With AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM
JN271718 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
25 Jun 87 pp 11-13

[Interview with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi by *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* correspondents Fahd al-Masa'id and 'Abdallah al-Shiti at the Al-Nasir Salah al-Din Barracks in the Birkah District of Benghazi — date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency the Colonel: What is your opinion of the Kuwaiti idea to hire Soviet tankers and to raise the U.S. flag on Kuwaiti vessels?

The Colonel: In fact I admire Kuwait's policy, which is a balanced one based on sound Kuwaiti convictions. If Kuwait deems it in its interest to provide protection for its tankers, then it can do what it wants without any pressure.

Your Excellency the Colonel: You do realize why Kuwait has Soviet tankers and why it has requested escort for oil tankers?

The Colonel: Iran accuses Kuwait of assisting the Iraqi war effort against it. We have made several protests to Iran because it attacked Kuwaiti targets and provoked Saudi tankers. Iran has said that as long as Iranian oil is the target of Iraqi attack, it will prevent the export of Iraqi oil through the Gulf just as Iraq is preventing the export of Iranian oil.

Your Excellency the Colonel: The situation in the Gulf demands a Libyan voice or, more correctly, Libyan weight to stop the Iraq-Iran war.

The Colonel: The first thing that we must do is to try and put an end to the war. If this war is stopped, then a new page will be turned in the efforts being made to pave the way for Arab unity. We are determined to exert every effort to end the Iraq-Iran war. We sent an envoy to Iran who met with Iranian officials and informed them that Libya's aim is to stop this war; it is a meaningless conflict and has inflicted grave losses on both sides. He also told them that Zionism and imperialism stand to benefit from this war since their goal is to destroy the capabilities of both Iran and Iraq. We found the Iranian officials to be somewhat intransigent, but they accepted the principle of continuing the dialogue between Libya and Iran until one side convinces the other.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Are there any secret contacts between Iraq and Iran through Arab or foreign mediators?

The Colonel: I do not know anything about this.

Your Excellency the Colonel: But you have an effective role in this regard, do you not?

The Colonel: We are convinced that the Israelis are very satisfied with the continuation of this war and with the destruction of the Iraqi force and the Iranian revolution, for these two things constitute a threat to Zionism and imperialism. They see this as an opportunity to make these forces clash and to exhaust their resources and capabilities. In actual fact, this war is meaningless because the Arabs have no intention of annexing the Iranian nation and Iran has no intention of annexing Iraq.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Have you not noticed that Iran is trying to expand the war and to involve Kuwait as a third side?

The Colonel: Actually, I do not have any confirmation in this regard. However, I do hope that the war will not expand and that we will be able to contain and end it.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Do you not believe that the Iraq-Iran war has surpassed all expectations and limits?

The Colonel: I would have liked this war to have been waged against the shah's regime in Iran because we would then have been the first to fight alongside Iraq. However, we instigated the Iranian people to revolt against the shah and they responded. The revolution was born, the shah was toppled, and Iran became a revolutionary state. The question now is: Why should we fight against a revolution which toppled the shah who was the enemy of the Arabs, an agent of the United States, and the ally of the Israelis? Toppling the shah was a great service for the Arab nation. The answer to this question is that this is a real dilemma. The war has become a real threat to Iraq, which is an Arab state. This is a real dilemma for us as a revolution.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Iran has been shown to be in league with Israel, and Israel is supplying Iran with arms.

V. 29 Jun 87

D 2

LIBYA

The Colonel: As I have disclosed before, this is only applicable to one faction in Iran. I have also said that there is a fifth column in Iran and that there are agents for Israel and the United States within the Iranian revolution. I have stated these things publicly. I have said that the United States and Israel want this war to continue. We do not find it strange that Israel should supply Iran with weapons to ensure a continuation of this war. The Americans are doing likewise, not out of love for Iraq or Iran but out of hate and in order to destroy the two countries. The United States and Israel are out to break the back of Iraq in view of the fact that it is the most important Arab force. They also want to exhaust Iraq's Army, oil, and resources. The Israelis are encouraging the continuation of this war to waste the energies of the Gulf.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Suppose Libya and sisterly Syria undertake a joint effort to end the war and to bring about a cessation of hostilities between Iran and Iraq?

The Colonel: This is very much on our mind. I am going to send the same envoy who visited Tehran to Iraq to sound out the Iraqi leadership and to communicate to it the thinking of the Iranians. The Iranians have been positive by agreeing to continue dialogue with us until one party convinces the other of its view. This is something new.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Is there a Syrian-Libyan initiative on the table to end the war?

The Colonel (laughing): Syria has a higher stake in the war than we do; it has common borders with Iraq and Israel and is more susceptible than others to regional ups and downs. The bottom line is that the existing inter-Arab differences are rooted in Arab reality. The responsibility for this state of affairs lies with us alone. I ask myself why Iraq and Libya should be in disagreement when they have no common borders, one being in Asia and the other in Africa. However, we have the struggle for Palestine and aspirations for Arab unity in common. I cannot think of one reason why Libya and Iraq should be at odds. To repeat, Iraq has benefited from the war. I consider Iraq's leaders to be the most realistic and responsible among their Arab counterparts. The war has taught them a lesson and made them into something that was not there before the conflict began; war is a bitter experience.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Are you in favor of a Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement?

The Colonel: Yes, naturally. Following the 1974 October war, I made great efforts to reconcile them. As a result, President Hafiz al-Asad visited Baghdad. I proposed unity between the two countries and I stand ready to relaunch this initiative, for bringing Iraq and Syria together is a pan-Arab duty.

Your Excellency the Colonel: What about the talks held in Algeria? Is there a new unionist experiment between Libya and Algeria?

The Colonel: The experiment is for the establishment of a federation and not unity. Several years following the establishment of such a federation, the experiment may be promoted to a

merger. Within the next few months we will declare the establishment of a federation between our two states, specifically on the day that the Algerian revolution was announced; that is, in November.

Your Excellency the Colonel: What form will this federation take?

The Colonel: It will be a federated state and will have a presidency and federal institutions. God willing, after a few years the experiment may be promoted to a full merger. There will be federal authorities and regional authorities. In other words, each state will retain its system of rule; namely, Libya will continue to have the Jamahiriya system of rule run by its masses and Algeria will be ruled by the FLN. There will also be a presidential council for the federated state, as well as a national congress, which will be the legislative authority, and an executive commission. Since Libya lies in the center of the Arab world, it is interested in linking the east and west sides of this world in a form of unity or federation. We have made several initiatives in this regard. We fear the terms "the Arab Maghreb," "the Arab east," and "the fertile crescent." We always fight such terms and believe in unionist Arab action.

Your Excellency the Colonel: It may be useful to establish such Arab blocs in order to reduce the multiplicity of Arab regimes, especially since the Arab citizen has despaired of the possibility of establishing comprehensive Arab unity.

The Colonel: Our slogan has always been Arab unity from the ocean to the Gulf without blocs, but reality may prompt us to establish a unity in the Arab Maghreb, a unity in the Arab east, or a unity in the Gulf. I regard the establishment of the GCC as a good move. In general, this step is good in view of the fact that the region is exposed to dangers and to foreign interference.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Arabs aspire to the establishment of any form of unity such as the unity of the Arab Maghreb. It is everyone's big dream.

The Colonel: Let us suppose that Libya, Algeria, and those supporting them established Arab Maghreb unity and then a country such as Syria, Sudan, or Yemen wanted to join. This term would not then be in harmony with this unity because Syria lies in the Arab east, so does Yemen and Sudan. Likewise, if Libya wants to join the GCC, it is not a Gulf state. Hence, terminology may be an obstacle to unity. It is better to have federations such as the USSR, the Swiss federation, and the Yugoslav federation. These are reasonable terms and allow any Arab state to join a federation under the term of a federated state.

Our stand on Syria is a basic pan-Arab stand. Syria can join a federation with the Jamahiriya because Syria is being targeted by Israel and colonialism. If Syria falls, God forbid, then there will be no obstacle impeding a colonialist and Zionist advance in the region. Syria constitutes the most important military force after Iraq. I can say that Syria is ready to enter into a tripartite federation comprising Libya, Algeria, and itself and that there is no problem in this regard.

V. 29 Jun 87

D 3

LIBYA

Your Excellency the Colonel: What about the relations between you and Egypt?

The Colonel: First of all, I am against the normalization of Israeli-Egyptian relations and the Camp David accords. I have sent a message to President Mubarak in which I stressed that Libya is an extension of Egypt's strategic capacity and that Libya's military power and capabilities are at his disposal in the event the Israeli enemy confronted him militarily. This took place 3 years ago. The message was written in my own hand. It was carried by a university professor to Field Marshal [Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim] Abu Ghazalah for delivery to President Mubarak.

Your Excellency the Colonel: President Mubarak has said that he will not embark on vituperations or conflicts with the Arab states and that he is ready to heal the rift with the fraternal countries. Why don't you be the first to extend a hand to him?

The Colonel: First of all, we are against the David stable accords. These accords have greatly harmed the Arab world and have torpedoed 20 years of work exerted by [the late Egyptian president] 'Abd al-Nasir in Africa to gain support for the Arab cause. 'Abd al-Nasir contributed to the building of mosques, schools, universities, and hotels in several African states. All of this was negated by the Egyptian regime's signing of the stable accords. Despite this, we are with this regime against any Israeli threat. We have exerted great effort to convince the African states to sever their relations with Israel. We have also paid enormous funds to achieve this objective. As a result, several African states severed their relations with Israel after the October war.

Your Excellency the Colonel: You have adopted new stands with regard to the Iraq-Iran war and the unity of Palestinian factions within the PLO. This latter move called for satisfaction. Do you have any explanation for these two points?

The Colonel: No Libyan delegation attended the PNC meetings. However, a round of Palestinian talks was held in Tripoli and came up with a document called the "Tripoli Document." Another session of talks was held with the Fatah Central Committee in Algiers. It seemed as though they had reached a formula accepted by some sides but rejected by others. This does not mean that Palestinian unity was fully restored. However, we consider what was achieved to be a positive element. We have contributed to achieving this result, which must not be wasted. We are continuing our efforts to complete Palestinian unity, for there are a group of important factions which remain outside of this unity such as Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] Fatah, Abu Nidal's [Sabri al-Banna] Fatah, the PFLP-GC led by Ahmad Jibril, Samir Ghawshah's Popular Struggle Front, and the Al-Sa'iqah organization. All of these factions remain outside the framework of Palestinian unity.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Yasir 'Arafat has praised your stand toward the camps' war in Lebanon.

The Colonel: We consider the camps' war to be a crime. He who struggles against the Palestinian camps is an agent of Zionism and fights on behalf of Israel. Is it a source of pride that

the Arabs fight against citizens in the Palestinian camps and destroy them? It is an action which serves the Israeli plan to annihilate the Palestinian people, to disarm them, and to exhaust them. It is extremely painful that an Arab side fights against the Palestinian camps.

Your Excellency the Colonel: There have been speculations about Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud's stay in Syria during the camps' war.

The Colonel: No, no. This is empty talk!

Your Excellency the Colonel: Do you have plans to invite Yasir 'Arafat to visit Libya?

The Colonel: There is no need to invite Yasir 'Arafat to visit Libya. However, there are Palestinian officials who visit us from time to time. Among these officials are Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], and others. We hold dialogue and discussions with them. What basically concerns us is unity among Palestinians. I consider what took place at the PNC to be a positive move which must not be relinquished. However, this is not all that is required.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Do you believe that Syria alone can fight Israel despite its capabilities and armament?

The Colonel: The war with Israel is a pan-Arab responsibility and Syria cannot do this until Arab differences are eliminated and the unity of Arab ranks is achieved. Since Israel receives support from the United States, we should strike at U.S. interests in the region. This is the responsibility of the Arab masses. The United States is the Arabs' archenemy, and its presence in the region is a threat to the Arab nation. The United States wants to make Israel control and dominate the Arab east; it wants to dominate the entire Arab homeland from the Strait of Hormuz and the Suez Canal through Gibraltar and up to the Mediterranean coast.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Do you think that striking at U.S. interests in the Arab region might harm the Arab economy?

The Colonel: Quite the contrary. The Arab economy is currently paralyzed because it is tied to the United States. The Arabs can be linked to the interests of other countries, such as the USSR which is an ally of the Arabs, has no relations with Israel, and supports the Arabs against their enemies.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Do you believe that we can depend on the USSR if we sever relations with the United States or if we strike at U.S. interests in the region?

The Colonel: What is required is that we first depend on ourselves. The USSR is a friend of the Arabs and hostile to the United States. The USSR has adopted several good stands, such as that toward President 'Abd al-Nasir. However, the Soviet stand with regard to Al-Sadat and Numayri gave a bad image to Soviet relations at the time. Numayri and Al-Sadat were bad examples and this reflected on the Soviets. However, their experience with 'Abd al-Nasir was good because 'Abd al-Nasir did not grant any bases and was neutral. His relations with the Soviets

V. 29 Jun 87

D 4

LIBYA

were balanced and based on friendship and respect. We must not forget the USSR's positive stands on Arab issues at the Security Council and the United Nations. There is no harm in bolstering relations with the USSR in the way pursued by 'Abd al-Nasir — a strategic relationship based on mutual respect. We do not necessarily have to be communists to deal with the USSR, contrary to what the United States demands of others.

Your Excellency the Colonel: What is left of the Libyan-Moroccan federation?

The Colonel: The plan was frozen after the Moroccan king announced the dissolution of the federation via radio.

Your Excellency the Colonel: The newspapers have reported the presence of Libyan forces on the Sudanese border.

The Colonel: It is true that Chadian nationalist forces entered the Sudanese border area and that they were regarded as Libyan forces. However, half the population of Chad is Arab Sudanese. Arab tribes are present within Chad and reach Ndjamena in the east; they are also present in southern and central Chad. They are present in half the area bordering Sudan and they are all Arab tribes. Our relations with Sudan are good. The leaders and members of the Al-Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party resided in Libya during Numayri's era. We trained, assisted, and armed them and they stayed with us for several years. We extend massive aid to the Sudanese people without announcing it. Convoys and hundreds of vehicles carrying water drills, plows, and agricultural tools and equipment leave Libya for Sudan every month.

Your Excellency the Colonel: What about relations with Britain, and what are Britain's views on the Arab nation?

The Colonel: Britain harbors a deeply-rooted grudge against the Arabs. It is a crusader state. During Thatcher's era it is considered a special U.S. tool used against the Soviet Union, the Arabs, and the Palestinians. Thatcher was the first British prime minister to visit Israel. This is a challenge to all Arabs. As for France, there is a chance for an understanding with it. Our relations with this country are not as bad as some people imagine. The only bad thing in France is that it wants to maintain its old ugly military, colonialist face and it deals with other countries through military bases. It has military bases in Central Africa. This means that the Republic of Central Africa is a French colony. The same is also true of Gabon, Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Chad, the Island of Madagascar, the Comoros, Caledonia, and French Guiana in Central America. We are against France and adopt a hostile stand toward it because it is a colonialist state in Africa. However, its policy is different from that of the United States, and it does not submit to the United States as some countries do.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Do you plan to attend the Arab summit conference in Riyadh if it is convened there?

The Colonel: Yes. We will attend the conference. We have begun our contacts with Arab leaders and we stressed to them the need to convene the summit in September, 1987.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Eighteen years have passed since the start of the September revolution. It is a short period of time in the life of a nation but a long one for achievements. Would you please give us a picture of what has been achieved during that period of time?

The Colonel: Revolutions cannot be assessed in years but by their achievements. These may not appear immediately but only after generations have passed. Despite the passing of these 18 years, we still consider ourselves to be at the beginning of the revolution. We have experienced and continue to experience revolutionary action. We still consider ourselves to be at one stage of the revolution, stages which are short for what we want to achieve. Over the last few years, we have learned much and we have gone through important experiences, some of which were negative and bitter. In other words, we have experienced real revolution which is different from other revolutions in the Arab homeland. Iraq has suffered from the war, regardless of what has happened to the other side. Iraq, the Iraqi brothers, and the Iraqi people have undergone a very important historic experience in this war. They have suffered in terms of the number of victims, the economic efforts exerted, the human losses, the victories, and the defeats. It is an extremely important experience similar to that of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. Of course, there are other historic experiences such as the one which took place in Algeria during French colonialism and the liberation war. We in Libya had such an experience in the days of Italian colonialism. These 18 years are not so different from the liberation war in Algeria and the Iraqi war. We also faced military confrontations with the United States and the reactionary NATO forces. We fought the French in Uganda and Lebanon. The last 18 years have not all been military battles and the experiences gained have not all been the same. However, it has been a time rich in revolutionary action. We have been carrying out our duties and we have been waging a conflict with the Arab reality in order to achieve our aspirations.

We have experienced victories, setbacks, and frustrations. It has been a hard experience. The past years have not been good ones, but we have managed to enable the people to assume power. Despite this, we are still in the revolution. Therefore, we cannot assess what we have achieved over the last 18 years. The overall results have been rich. We have managed to establish a Jamahiriyah state in the Arab world, among the Third World countries and the contemporary world, at a time when politics were forbidden in Arab countries. Politics have become the task of all the people in Libya. Even the weapons which were once confined to the Army and the police forces are now obtained by the popular masses. Students study the rifle, the gun, and the missile and they can use their weapons and fight anytime they wish.

Moreover, Libya's resources, which were exploited by foreign companies, have been utilized in the interest of the masses and have become the property of the people. Nevertheless, we feel that we are still at the beginning and in an experimental phase. We are discussing how to make factories the property of workers and how to turn workers into partners rather than paid employees. On 1 September a new phase may begin in an effort to make the economic and services institutions the property of the popular masses. We may have worked out a theory which has not been understood in the last quarter of this century. However, it is a

V. 29 Jun 87

D 5

LIBYA

new theory which has solved the problems of power, administration, incentives, and ownership. These issues have been solved theoretically, but the features of this theory have not yet become clear practically. Therefore, we cannot export this theory at the present time.

In brief, I am neither a president nor a ruler. I am a revolutionary. We have established the state of the masses ruled by people's congresses and committees. God willing, we will witness important changes this year. There will be a unique, new experiment in the world. Resources must not be the property of the government just like nationalization is not the property of a people nor is it a private property because its revenues will eventually be obtained by the owner of these resources, whether this is an individual or a group of people. Our theory has solved this problem and turned ownership into the property of groups of people; that is, the collective ownership which was mentioned in the second part of the Green Book.

For example, let us suppose that there is a hotel owned by one person or by the state. Here the income will go to either of these two parties which, practically, means a lack in the distribution of income or resources. Collective ownership is designed to make a group of people from the masses the owners of the hotel so that its revenues will go to all of them. These people run the hotel and manage its affairs regardless of whether the state or other parties have built it. Let us take a huge agricultural project, for example, which may employ 1,000 Libyans. They run such a project and distribute its revenues among themselves. This would also be the case with factories and institutions. Eventually you would find that all institutions are owned by groups of people. On a lower level, we may establish small workshops owned, for example, by 10 people. There would be neither employers nor workers but a workshop owned by a group of people.

Your Excellency the Colonel: How will the revenues of projects and factories be distributed among owners? In other words, is

there a definite limit on ways to make expenditures, or are they allowed to distribute profits in any way whatsoever?

The Colonel: Basically, all of the revenues would be obtained by the group of workers or the institution that owns the project. But let us suppose that the revenues were large. In this case, taxes would be imposed according to the income of the workers in these factories and institutions to ensure that the society would grow gradually and equally.

Your Excellency the Colonel: Have you faced negative aspects or obstacles?

The Colonel: The major negative aspect is the backward man. Overcoming this negative aspect will require time, because the Arabs have suffered from colonialism and the burdens of backwardness which cannot be easily defeated. The Arabs need a number of years to be saved from social and economic backwardness. Moreover, one's cultural or scientific education cannot be a standard of progress and civilization. There are many educated people who are considered backward as a result of their irresponsible, unwise behavior which negatively reflects on groups of people or on society.

Your Excellency the Colonel: What is the status of the artificial river project?

The Colonel: We have attained a satisfactory level and work is underway to lay huge pipes between Benghazi and the Gulf of Sidra. At a later stage, pipes will be extended to Tripoli. The project costs several billions [currency not specified]. The pipes are 4,000-7,000 km long. It is the largest project ever established on earth. It is one of the world's wonders in view of the fact that the pipe's diameter is 4 meters wide.

V. 29 Jun 87

MAURITANIA

E 1

Diplomatic Relations With Iran Severed 28 Jun
AB281600 Paris AFP in English 1543 GMT 28 Jun 87

[Text] Nouakchott, June 28 (AFP) — Mauritania severed diplomatic relations with Iran on Sunday [28 June] over Tehran's "(?)obstinate) refusal" to negotiate an end to the Gulf war, a Foreign Ministry statement said. It said Iran's stance "threatens the peace and the stability of all countries in the region."

The two Islamic republics have had diplomatic ties for 20 years, although their trade links are virtually non-existent. Both had embassies in the other's capital and officials said Mauritania's ambassador to Tehran was doyen of the diplomatic corps there.

Mauritania, which has never hidden its sympathies for Iraq, "favored an immediate end to hostilities and a negotiated settlement" of the conflict, the statement said. "For almost seven years, a war that is getting more and more murderous has raged in the Gulf causing countless casualties and material losses."

According to Nouakchott, Iran has persistently wrecked peace initiatives by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, and the Organization of Islamic Conference, and pursued a "strategy of systematic impediment of freedom of movement in the Gulf aimed at choking the economies of all countries in the region".

Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya received a message from Kuwait's Emir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah on Saturday on developments in the Gulf. The envoy who delivered the message said that the president had expressed support for measures taken by Kuwait to protect its economy, which is threatened by the war on its borders.

'Text' of Ministry Statement

LD282138 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2032 GMT 28 Jun 87

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation has announced in a statement issued today that our country has decided to sever its diplomatic relations with Iran after having ascertained that Iran (showed no interest) in Arabian Gulf peace negotiations. The following is the text of the statement:

For almost 7 years a devastating war has raged in the Gulf area, one which causes enormous human and material losses daily. Throughout this conflict between two Muslim countries, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania has relentlessly called for a cease-fire and for settling this war through negotiation. A num

ber of initiatives were sponsored — particularly by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Islamic Conference Organization — to put an end to this conflict which threatens both regional stability and sovereignty, as well as international peace and security. However, Iran persists in thwarting all of these efforts. It recently has attempted, by using military force, to extend the conflict's scope to include other countries in the region. Iran has also recently committed a fresh violation of international law by devising a strategy aimed at the total obstruction of navigation in the Gulf in order to strangle all the region's national economies.

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania, out of its eagerness to preserve the safety of the region and the stability and security of the Gulf nations, and after having ascertained that Iran, by its continuous rejection of all negotiations, aims at objectives contrary to all of those listed above, has decided to sever its diplomatic relations with Iran.

President Receives Kuwaiti Envoy, Amir's Message
AB280905 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
0730 GMT 28 Jun 87

[Text] A special envoy sent by Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti amir, was received by the head of state yesterday. The envoy, Khalid Ahmad al-Jasir, the minister of Awqaf and Islamic affairs, delivered a message to President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. The message, he indicated, touches on developments in the Arab world, particularly in the Gulf region. He further stated after his audience with the president that the head of state had expressed Mauritania's sympathy with Kuwait and its understanding of measures taken by the latter to safeguard its economy in the face of threats posed by the Gulf war.

SDAR Official Arrives With Message for President
LD271418 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 26 Jun 87

[Text] Mohamed Salim Ould Sadek, member of the Polisario Political Bureau and secretary general of the SDAR presidency, arrived in Nouakchott this morning. He told the *Mauritanian News Agency* on his arrival that he carries a message from SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz to Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state. He added that the message comes under the framework of consultations between the two countries and deals with the latest regional developments.